Request of Uttar Pradesh for financial help

†1356. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, *vide* their letter, dated 17th December, 2003 has submitted a proposal to the Central Government regarding financial assistance of Rs. 894.21 lakhs for three mental hospitals at Agra, Varansi and Bereilly, Rs. 281.50 lakhs for five medical colleges, Rs. 320.50 lakhs for a unit of Balrampur hospital, Lucknow unit and Rs. 315.50 lakhs for other items, and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when Government are likely to accord it sanction for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) The various proposals received from Government of Uttar Pradesh have been considered by the Government. The Steering Committee has recommended for release of funds for strengthening of mental hospital at Bareilly and upgradation of psychiatric ward of six medical colleges at Lucknow, Kanpur, Allahabad, Jhansi, Merrut and Agra subject to evaluation by the Appraisal Committee. As regards mental hospitals of Agra and Varanasi, fresh proposals in accordance with National Mental Health Programme are being obtained from the State Government.

Misuse of funds by NGOs in Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Delhi

†1357. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Non-Governmental Organisations engaged in Health releated programmes in Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Delhi;

(b) the amount provided by Central Government to each of these organisation during last three years, Year-wise;

(c) whether this amount has been fully utilised and if so, the complete details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) whether there are reports regarding misuse of this amount and if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government against the organization found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Task force on falling sex ratio

1358. SHRI R. KAMRAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to set up a task force on falling sex ratio in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that in some States the sex ratio had reached at shockingly low levels;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Government had taken a decision to monitor the programme implementation by the voluntary organisations at the grassroot level in more effective manner; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) Declining trend in sex ratio has been a matter of concern for all in the country. States/Union Territories like Punjab, Harayna, Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh and Delhi are among those having lowest levels of sex ratio in the country. State/Union Territories wise sex ratio is given in the Statement (See below).

For effective programme implementation, a National Monitoring and Inspection Committee including representative from NGOs, National Commission for Women, Department of Women and Child Development etc. has been constituted at the Central level to take stock of ground realities by field visits to the problem States. The Committee visits vulnerable States/districts and submit the report to the Central Supervisory Board (CSB) and concerned State/district authorities. It also monitors